

GOVERNOR

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION DAY

2010

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, over 116,000 American Indians live in North Carolina, giving the State the largest American Indian population east of the Mississippi and the eighth largest American Indian population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to eight American Indian tribes:

The Coharie in Harnett and Sampson counties

The Eastern Band of Cherokee residing on the 56,000-acre Qualla Boundary

The Haliwa-Saponi in Halifax and Warren counties

The Lumbee in Robeson, Hoke, Cumberland and Scotland counties

The Meherrin in Hertford, Bertie, Gates and Northampton counties

The Occaneechi Band of the Saponi in Alamance and Orange counties

The Sappony in Person County

The Waccamaw-Siouans in Columbus and Bladen counties; and

WHEREAS, education has always been and continues to be a cherished tradition among American Indian tribes across North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Indian schools were established in these communities specifically to serve the unique educational needs of American Indian students and function as part of the historic foundation of the tribal community; and

WHEREAS, American Indians in North Carolina have historically engaged in the State's educational systems, driven by their attempts to continually promote cultural awareness, increase economic opportunities, promote self-sufficiency and maintain tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, officials from the U.S. Department of Education will be convening a Tribal Leader Listening and Learning session to gather tribal input on improving academic outcomes for American Indian students in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 5, 2010, as "AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION DAY" in North Carolina, and urge our citizens to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by North

Carolina Indian tribes.

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WH ereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North heigh this four day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten, and of the Carolina at the Capitol in Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.